1947 MOUNT DIABLO W6CX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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THE CARRIER

The monthly newsletter for the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
Volume LVI • Number 8 • August 2007

August Meeting

Friday, August 17—7:30 pm
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane
Lafayette, CA

V.E. Testing
Prior to the meeting from 6-7 PM.

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President's QRM

by Marty Heyman, W6MDH

We continue to have a lot of fun with the new hams at our Technician Class license test study program. As I mentioned, one of the students took the test after only two sessions, passed the Technician level, took the General test as suggested by the VE team, and passed that. He's STILL coming to the class but now his questions are more about equipment, frequencies, and the like. Two others took the Technician Class test that same night and passed. The Board decided to give all attendees at the class a free membership for the remainder of the year if they took the test at our VE sessions and we have several new and enthusiastic members!

Summer is a busy time for us all and I have been blesses with much to occupy my time. The Moraga-Orinda Fire Department volunteer communications team has been called upon twice this month and I was my pleasure to serve on both occasions. One was the wild fire up at Crockett which was well under control by the time we got called and the other was radio support for the memorial for the fallen firefighters. With the Bike Against the Odds public service event coming up in a few weeks, I'm feeling pretty useful this year. Hope you all are having chances to use your skills and equipment for fun or service this summer.

SIRARC Meeting Notice

The Sons In Retirement Amateur Radio Club (SIRARC) will be meeting on the Fourth Friday August 24, 2ØØ7 at Jonsey's Famous Steak House, 1744 Airport Road, Napa, Ca. 94558.

Anyone that has an interest in amateur radio is welcome at our meetings, including spouses, girl friends, significant others and friends.

We have reservations for about 12-15 at the back of the restaurant. We arrive at around 1130 hours and are finished at around 1400 hours. Find more information at <www.qsl.net/w6zzt>.

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The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and space is available. All material must be submitted to the editor by the last day of the month prior-to publication. Material is accepted on a first-in, first-out basis. Articles and other material may be submitted via Internet email to *carrier@mdarc.org* or delivered to the editor at the address listed in the club roster. Material will be accepted in plain ASCII or rich text format (RTF). Material may also be submitted as hardcopy.

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MDARC Club Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2007
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA

President Marty Heyman, W6MDH, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. There were about 35 members and guests present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed in the Carrier.

Treasurer Don Anthony, N6SIA, reported that the treasury total was $47,647 in CDs and $1211 in checking.

Marty noted that there is a Tech class ongoing, and anyone is welcome to sit in. The Board decided that graduates of the Tech class, if they took their license test here with the VEs, their MDARC membership would be free for the balance of the year. Of the 10 candidates taking the tests prior to the meeting, 6 passed the Tech exam and 4 passed the General exam.

Trevor Hall reported for the Tech Committee that all repeaters were up and running ok. Regarding the question about the reduction in power on the 440 repeater, the footprint seems to be the same, with perhaps some degradation at the fringes, e.g. Santa Rosa, etc.

In regard to EC matters, there will be a shelter drill for the Red Cross on the 28th, with the Walnut Creek EOC drill, and San Pablo EOC for West County, with the San Ramon EC truck in San Pablo as well, and the Richmond Red Cross. It was also announced that there is no EC training in July or August.

For public service events, there will be a race coming up on Sept. 10. Interested hams should check with Pete Harris, KE6ZIW, or the web site.

Dick Brown, KT6X, announced that Pacificon tickets were available at the meeting, and on the Pacificon website.

East Bay Section Manager Ti-Michelle Connelly, NJ6T, announced that she would not be running again for another term because of travel, but that the Assistant Section Manager most likely will.

Marty recessed the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Marty reconvened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and spoke and answered questions on the status of interoperability problems. Trevor Hall then spoke and answered questions on the decibel and its calculation and meaning.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Dickey, N6JOX, Secretary

Editor's Exciter

by Jeremiah R. Blasi, K6BQ

Hello all! It has been a busy summer. Although I have enjoyed it, I will be glad to get back to "normal."

I apologize for the lateness of the *Carrier* this month. I did not intend for it to be this late, but in the last 5 weeks, I have only been at home for days at a time. As I write this article, my wife is helping me pack for the last trip tomorrow. So, by the September issue, things will be back to normal, and I'll get the newsletter out on time!

By the way, I'm always looking for good articles and photos for the *Carrier*. If you have ideas or submissions, please send them to *carrier@mdarc.org*. Thank you to those who have helped with various submissions. Your ideas are what make this newsletter interesting.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. I'll be gone for this coming club meeting, but I'll hope to see many of you at the September meeting. Then, Pacificon will be here before we know it! 73.

General Class

The Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) is sponsoring a one day General upgrade class on August 14th, 1707. This is a good time for you Technicians that have been itching to get some real HF privileges. The Class will be held from 8:00am-5:00pm at the Livermore City Council Chambers, with a test session to follow.

For more information & to sign up, contact Mike Haas at AD6TA@arrl.net.

MDARC Field Day 2007

Thanks to Glen Rickerd, NO6W for the great Field Day pictures!

It was a great day, and a successful event. The weather was mild with a light breeze. W6CX made many contacts on a number of different bands. Thanks to all who were a part of it!

MDARC Board Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2007
Fuddrucker's, Walnut Creek, CA

President Marty Heyman W6MDH, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Other Board Members present: Vice-President Sheldon Lawrence KI6ATA, Secretary Paul Dickey N6JOX,Treasurer Don Anthony N6SIA, Directors Jason Legate W6SN, Dave Gordon N6SWE, and EC Bob Green K6GD. Chairmen & other members present: Trevor Raty KG6MDW, Lauren Styles WA6CIE, and Liz Styles KG6HLV.

The minutes of the last meeting will be published online and in the Carrier.

Treasurer Don Anthony noted a checkbook balance of $2,099.51 and CDs of $48,357. Some membership checks are pending deposit.

Committee Reports:

- The Carrier is being printed, and labels will be available tomorrow.
- Pacificon: The Pacificon brochure is being reprinted and will be distributed as usual.
- Training: Sign-ups are being obtained for a new Tech class to begin tomorrow night.
- EC: Bob advised that training classes would resume in August.

Announcements:

- Field Day was very successful; the group had several interested public visitors, including a youth group. Contacts were made on many bands, mostly on 20m. Other bands worked: 40, 15, 10, 2, 80, 440, 6.
- Moving the telephone may be addressed at a later meeting.
- The Tech Committee is checking the building lock. The Vollmer site is agreed upon orally; details will be forthcoming. Possible enhancements may include a "house" rack, and a 6m link.

Marty adjourned the meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Dickey, N6JOX, Secretary

MDARC Elections and Offices

In just a few months it will be time to vote on MDARC club officers. Each officer serves a one-year term, with an option to be re-elected.

President Marty Heyman has announced his intentions to not run for another term. He has done a great job over the last two years, but will need a good replacement. The other offices are also open for candidates who are members of MDARC.

We are also in need of a volunteer to fulfill the role of Membership Chairman.

If you are interested, or know of someone who would be interested in fulfilling these roles, please contact Marty Heyman at *w6mdh@arrl.net*.

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East County	146.535 Simplex Drew Hanson, KD6GLY
South County	146.355/+ (100 PL) Ed Ritchie, K6SFD
West County	145.110/- Steve Adams, KF6WNH

August Events

August 17	7:30 pm	**MDARC Monthly Meeting** *Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Lafayette*
August 30		**August Carrier Deadline**
September 10	7:00 pm	**MDARC Board Meeting** *Fuddrucker's, 1940 N. Main St., Walnut Creek*

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Next meeting: August 17